

Outside of the political arena, he is legendary as well. He is admired for perhaps his proudest legacy. It is a title he has held for more than 60 years. He is the founder of the Jesse White Tumblers. He first launched the team back in 1959 to give the kids in the neighborhood something positive to do. And over the decades, he has recruited more than, listen to this, 18,500 young kids to his tumbling team, training generations of our city's children into expert acrobats.

Their handsprings and back flips have entertained crowds around the world from Canada to China. The Tumblers have flown through the air at major sporting events, made an appearance at President Obama's inaugural. You may remember them from "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."

With his tumbling team, Secretary White has created a safe, welcoming space for Chicago's kids to grow and flourish. As long as they maintain decent grades and abstain from drugs and alcohol, he can't wait to get them on his team. Previous Tumblers have gone on to become doctors, teachers, accountants, community leaders, and more—countless lives changed for the better.

One more story about Jesse White that captures the person he is. It is not what he talks about often. You see, as a young man, he was a pretty good baseball player. After he graduated from Alabama State, he was recruited by the Chicago Cubs to play in the minor leagues. His staff tells me he had a lifetime batting average of .291. I should be so lucky. The top batting average in Major League Baseball today is .326.

Amazingly, days before he was set to leave for spring training with the Cubs and begin his minor league baseball career, he was drafted into the Army. He went to jump school and trained as a paratrooper, serving the Army's 101st Airborne Division and eventually completing 35 jumps, out of what he used to say was a perfectly safe airplane.

It may have been the first time that Secretary White put service to his country and community over his own self-interests, but it wouldn't be the last because that is exactly what he has dedicated himself to every day: doing his part to build the "Beloved Community" and earning his reputation as our State's most beloved public servant.

To Secretary White, you have been every Illinoisan's "happy warrior," championing the needs of our families and defending the rights of those who have been left behind.

Thank you for your leadership and your lifetime of friendship.

Loretta and I wish you a long, happy retirement with your daughters, Glena and Lorraine; your son Mark, and your two grandchildren, Susan and Jesse.

Madam President, last week—last Friday, I went to the Irish Fellowship Luncheon in Chicago. It is quite a fes-

tive event. And I wasn't surprised when that honorary Irishman "Jesse O'White," got the greatest round of applause of all.

Jesse, you deserved it, and you will always be my pal.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. DUCKWORTH). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HOUSE CALENDAR

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, throughout this Congress, I have been more than a little puzzled about the House's refusal to advance common-sense bills that pass the Senate with unanimous support. I know my Senate colleagues have shared their concerns as we have watched bipartisan bills sit in House purgatory with no explanation as to what the reasons for the holdup are.

We are talking about bills that help prevent child sexual abuse, support disaster relief, cut redtape, and increase payments to the child support program. These are hardly controversial matters. All 100 Members of the Senate supported these bipartisan bills and countless others, but they are still collecting dust on the House calendar.

With the end of the 117th Congress less than a month away, it looks like the logjam may finally begin to break. Last week, the House finally passed the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Reauthorization Act that I authored with Senator KLOBUCHAR. This bill will continue critical grants for mental health courts, crisis intervention teams, and other programs to promote public safety, improve mental health outcomes, and reduce recidivism. The bill passed the Senate unanimously in June, and while I am disappointed that it took so long for the House to act, I am glad it finally did with overwhelming bipartisan support.

Last week, the House also passed legislation to rename the post office in Arlington, TX, not exactly a monumental piece of legislation. But the important part of it was that it honored our friend and former colleague Congressman Ron Wright. This legislation passed the Senate with unanimous support back in May, and over the last 6 months, it has gotten caught up in partisan jockeying in the House. I am glad the House finally advanced this bill so that we can honor the incredible life and legacy of Congressman Wright.

As I said, the logjam looks like it is beginning to break, but we still have a way to go.

Despite advancing these two overwhelmingly bipartisan bills, the House still refuses to pass another incredible bill, the Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment Act. Senator WHITE-

HOUSE and I introduced this bipartisan bill to help incarcerated individuals struggling with drug abuse.

There is a well-established link between drug abuse and crime. And in order for individuals who have been incarcerated to have the best shot at leading healthy and productive lives, they need to break the cycle of addiction.

The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program—or RSAT, as it is sometimes called—provides incarcerated individuals with access to treatment for substance use disorders. The treatment is coupled with programs to prepare these men and women for re-entry and to provide community-based treatment once they are released.

Our bill updates the program and expands access to treatment in jails and prisons around the country so that we can reduce recidivism and build safer, healthier communities. More than two dozen organizations have endorsed this bill, including law enforcement, criminal justice, and behavioral health groups.

As I indicated, it passed the Senate with unanimous support last year, but for some unknown reason, the House has refused to take it up so far. I can only hope that this will change in the waning days of the 117th Congress.

As bad as it is to block any of these commonsense, bipartisan bills, one of the most confounding is a bill to improve the way police respond to an individual experiencing a mental health crisis. This has been a major issue, something we have led on here in the Congress.

Why the House refuses to act now is beyond me, but the American people have witnessed one disturbing incident after another in which a seemingly benign encounter with police turned deadly. These have included everything from routine traffic stops to encounters with individuals experiencing a severe mental health meltdown.

We all agree that deadly force should be a last resort. Unfortunately, police officers don't always have the training and the resources they need to defuse potentially dangerous situations. That is why this training and these grants are so important, to deescalate the confrontation.

As we all know, our communities ask a lot of our law enforcement officers. In addition to fighting crimes, they are often the first to respond to domestic disputes, drug overdoses, and, yes, mental health crises. They are expected to function as peace officers, social workers, mental health professionals, and crisis response experts of all stripes.

We have tried to lessen the burden on police through bills like the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Reauthorization Act, but those bills alone are not enough. Law enforcement has asked Congress for more support to improve deescalation training, and we need to deliver.

That is exactly why I worked with Senator WHITEHOUSE, the Democratic

Senator from Rhode Island, to update and reintroduce the Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act. This legislation will ensure that all of our officers have the skills they need to defuse a potentially dangerous situation that could endanger them or perhaps the individual experiencing the crisis.

Again, use of force should come into play only when absolutely necessary, and this legislation will provide law enforcement with the ready knowledge of what alternatives exist. It will help train police in deescalation tactics, the most effective and safest ways to interact with people experiencing mental health or suicide crises, and how to work as part of a crisis intervention team.

Law enforcement has specifically requested this training, and I am not willing to second-guess them when they say these are important techniques to keep their officers and the general public safe. They are certainly not “soft-on-crime” policies.

This bill has a list of endorsements that is as long as it is diverse. Law enforcement groups, including the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Police Organizations, and the National Sheriffs’ Association have all endorsed this bill. So did the Major County Sheriffs of America, the Major Cities Chiefs Association, and the National Criminal Justice Association.

This legislation also has the support of major mental health groups, including the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the American Psychological Association, and the Meadows Health Policy Institute.

It received the endorsement of folks on the conservative end of the spectrum, such as the American Conservative Union, the Faith and Freedom Coalition, and Right on Crime.

It has the support of faith-based groups, including Prison Fellowship, the National Association of Evangelicals, and the Catholic Prison Ministry Coalition.

It has also received the support of the National Association of Counties, which represents local leaders throughout the country.

Despite this long list of advocates and stakeholders who support this bill and the fact that the Senate passed it unanimously, the House, for some unknown reason, blocked it this last week. While it received majority support, it failed to clear the two-thirds threshold necessary under the House suspension calendar.

Many of the people who voted against this bill are the same ones who supported deescalation training grants multiple times in previous years. They are even on record promoting their support in the media.

As recently as 2 months ago, grants for deescalation training were uncontroversial. It is tough to understand what has changed and why anyone would vote against this bill now.

It provides the funding and the training that law enforcement desperately

needs and that will help make encounters between law enforcement and people experiencing a mental health crisis much safer for all concerned. It will help build public confidence and trust in our law enforcement agencies, and, like I said, it has the support of a full range of stakeholders.

There is no ideological or political reason why people would not support this bill, as Members of the Senate and Members of the Congress across the political spectrum have seen the wisdom of passing this legislation. But I must say that anyone who considers themselves “pro-police” or pro-law enforcement should be pro this legislation.

I am disappointed, as I said, that the House blocked this bill from heading to the President’s desk last week, and I am hopeful that Speaker PELOSI and Leader HOYER will schedule another vote at a simple majority threshold soon.

I look forward to that second vote because, as we know, House Republicans have been very clear about their support for America’s police officers.

Earlier this year, they rolled out their “Commitment to America” framework, which included a commitment to build a nation that is safe. Part of that commitment is to “oppose all efforts to defund the police.” I stand by that commitment 100 percent, and no one who supports the Commitment to America should waiver in their support of law enforcement, including this particular piece of legislation.

In order for every American to not only be safe but to feel safe, we need to enact long overdue reforms to ensure police are more responsibly serving our communities, and that is that they have the training and tools they need in order to do their dangerous and difficult job.

The Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act will go a long way to give those officers the funding and training that they have requested and that they need in order to do their jobs better.

Just as House Republicans have promised, we must give America’s brave law enforcement officers the resources they need in order to protect and serve our communities.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

OPEN APP MARKETS ACT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, this past February, the Senate Judiciary Committee agreed 20 to 2 to pass the Open App Markets Act. This is a piece of legislation I put together with Senator BLUMENTHAL to stop tech giants from stifling competition in the app store marketplace.

Through their control of the app stores on consumer devices as well as

the device operating systems themselves, Apple and Google have become the gatekeepers of information. They do this by physically locking down the devices they control, making it near impossible to access competing content.

Apple fully prevents consumers from accessing third-party apps and app stores on their mobile devices. Google allows more access to outside apps but makes the process so difficult that they might as well lock down their devices the way Apple is locking down the iPhone.

These companies claim that these restrictions make your devices more secure, but they don’t apply the same policies to their laptops and other similar consumer devices; it is only on the iPhone and on the Android. Why would that be? Now, I don’t know for sure, but I do know this: By locking down their mobile devices, Apple and Google can force app developers to abide by their terms no matter how harsh those terms may be.

Recently, Daniel Eck, who is the founder and CEO of Spotify, said: “Over and over again, Apple gives itself every advantage while at the same time stifling innovation and hurting consumers.” Elon Musk, now the CEO of Twitter, has criticized the 30-percent “tax” that Apple and Google take from developers.

What is more, app creators can’t go to consumers themselves to offer them a better deal because that kind of contact is forbidden by Apple and Google in their terms of service. Think about it. You can’t even reach out to the people who have your app because Apple and Google forbid you, the developer, from contacting the consumer who is using your app.

Consider the positions startup developers are placed in. Imagine trying to get your business off the ground in a market where two major players control access to your potential customers. There is no other market, and you can’t negotiate with them, so you are forced to play by the rules the gatekeepers are forcing on you. Under those rules, the gatekeepers control your access to your customers. They use your confidential business information against you and block you from using the features on your customers’ device to give them a better experience.

I heard just this story from a Tennesseean named Karen Thomas, who is the CEO of Agrin Health in Nashville. Listen to the way she describes how Apple held her company’s app hostage. I am quoting her story.

They demanded changes that would eliminate Agrin’s paid functions in its web app and stopped Karen from updating her mobile app—which was free—until she began charging consumers through Apple’s in-app payment system. This, again, would let Apple take a 30% cut of every subscription Agrin received.

That is the “Apple tax” in action.

Karen said: